

PROPOSED NEW CLAIM

(NOT TO BE ENTERED)

24. (New) An inventory management system for managing an inventory of materials

between a supplier and a customer, the system comprising:

at least one container containing an amount of a supplier's inventory material at a first monitored location at a supplier workplace;

at least one container containing an amount of a customer's inventory material at a second monitored location at a customer workplace;

at least one measurement instrument operatively associated with the supplier's container and at least one measurement instrument operatively associated with the customer's container, each of the measurement instruments being configured to generate at least one data signal representative of respective amounts and compositions of the inventory material in the supplier's container at the supplier workplace and in the customer's container at the customer workplace, wherein said data signal representative of said respective compositions of said inventory material is associated with a product identifier and a container identifier;

a telemetry unit in communication with each of the measurement instruments, the telemetry unit being configured to receive at least the generated data signal from the measurement instruments and to convert the generated data signal into inventory information;

a monitoring mail server in communication with the telemetry unit, the monitoring mail server configured to receive at least the inventory information from the telemetry unit;

at least a second server in communication with the monitoring mail server,
the second server configured for receiving at least the inventory information from the monitoring
mail server via an Internet connection, the second server being configured to process the
inventory information for presentation on at least one website; and

a wireless communications link between the telemetry unit and the
monitoring mail server, wherein the wireless communications link comprises at least one of a
radio frequency, IEEE 802.11 wireless LAN or Bluetooth technology.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Discuss the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of current claims 1 and 19-23 over U.S. Patent No. 6,341,271 to Salvo et al.

2. Discuss the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection in view of proposed new claim 24.